

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W

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R 261250Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4809

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3818

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T USNATO 1636

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SOVIET DEMARCHE TO BELGIAN MFA ON SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. DURING MARCH 25 SPC MEETING, BELGIAN REP (BAL) REPORTED THAT ON MARCH 21 SOVIET EMBASSY REP IN BRUSSELS HAD MADE DEMARCHE TO BELGIAN MFA EXPRESSING SOVIET SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT PROGRESS ON AND RAPPROACHMENT MADE WITH NATO ALLIES ON SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS ISSUE. SOVIET EMBASSY REP (WE WERE LATER TOLD HE WAS FIRST SECRETARY PERFILIEV) OFFERED NO EXPLANATION AS TO WHY MOSCOW HAD REACHED THESE POSITIVE CONCLUSIONS.

2. BELGIAN REP ASKED WHETHER OTHER ALLIES WERE AWARE OF ANY SIMILAR DEMARCHES (NONE WERE). HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT ENTIRE APPROACH, INCLUDING LACK OF ANY SUPPORTING EVIDENCE, WAS A WELL KNOWN SOVIET TACTIC (SEEN FREQUENTLY DURING PREPARATORY TALKS TO CSCE). BELGIANS BELIEVE ALLIES SHOULD BE AWARE OF WHAT SOVIETS WERE UP TO, AND SHOULD REACT PRUDENTLY TO ANY SOMILAR INITIATIVES.

SECRET

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HE ADDED THAT BELGIAN DEL IN VIENNA HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO AVOID GIVING ANY INDICATION OF CONCURRING WITH SOVIET VIEWS SHOULD ANY OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN VIENNA ATTEMPT TO FOLLOW UP ON DEMARCHE. ALLIES, HE CONCLUDED, SHOULD NOT RUN RISK OF ENGANING

IN AN INFORMAL DIALOGUE WITH SOVIETS ON A SUBJECT FOR WHICH THERE
WAS AS YET NO ALLIED AGREEMENT.
RUMSFELD.

SECRET

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